

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE
FOR
1957

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health

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1958

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STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer:

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers:

B. S. JARVIS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Principal Dental Officer:

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S. (from 1st April)

Dental Officers:

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S. (to 31st March)

E. G. O'SHEA, B.D.S. (part-time)

Miss M. MALCOLM, L.D.S. (part-time)

Mrs. M. R. CRAVEN, L.D.S.

Administrative Assistant:

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A. (Admin.)

*Visiting Specialists:*F. BAUER, F.R.C.S. EDIN., D.L.O., *E.N.T. Consultant Surgeon*E. ALLAN, M.B., CH.B., *Ophthalmic Surgeon*F. C. DWYER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., M.CH.ORTH., *Orthopaedic Consultant Surgeon**School Nurses:*

Mrs. S. FOULDS

Mrs. M. M. OLSEN

Mrs. M. E. RICE

Miss E. C. JONES

Dental Attendants:

Miss B. BURNETT

Miss P. M. YATES

Clerks:

Miss D. GREEN (Clerk in Charge)

Miss D. BERNARD

Miss E. M. DUNFORD

Miss A. D. BURNETT (to 13th April)

Miss J. WYLIE (from 13th April)

FOREWORD

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
BOOTLE.
August, 1958.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Education Committee,*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the fiftieth Annual Report on the health of the school children in Bootle.

During the year, 3,520 children were examined at the routine medical inspections; of these 33 children or 0.9 per cent. were classified as of poor general condition as compared with 1.43 per cent. of 3,007 reported at the corresponding examinations in 1956. This classification of general condition was introduced in 1947 when the number reported as of poor general condition was 6.44 per cent.; since that date there has, with slight exceptions, been a continuous improvement throughout the years. It is to be noted that in the corresponding period there has been an increase of 3,429 in the school population.

During the year, 34,312 examinations were made by the school nurses for cleanliness; in 905 instances uncleanness was found. This figure compares favourably with the previous year when 946 instances of uncleanness out of a total of 35,111 examinations were found.

The arrangements made for the examination of entrants to the courses of training for teaching and to the teaching profession in accordance with the terms of Circular 249 of the Ministry of Education as outlined in the report for 1954 were continued. During the year 46 such examinations were made.

Infectious diseases reported among school children were less prevalent during 1957 than in the preceding year. While the incidence of scarlet fever remained practically the same, 32 cases being reported as against 34 in 1956, there was a reduction of 359 in the number of cases of measles and 64 in the number of cases of whooping cough. It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year on account of infectious disease. No cases of diphtheria were reported during the year in which 404 children of school age received a complete course of inoculations and 775 previously inoculated children received a stimulating inoculation against this disease.

No cases of poliomyelitis were reported in school children. During the year inoculations against this disease, in accordance with the Ministry's circulars, were confined to children born between 1947-1954 who registered in 1956 and those born in 1955 and 1956. Thus, only children up to 10

years of age were able to take advantage of this method of protection, and partly due to the short supply of vaccine only 51 school children were inoculated. In 1958, inoculation was extended to school children under 15 years of age.

As outlined in the report for last year, the arrangements for the B.C.G. vaccination of children aged 13 years against tuberculosis were carried into effect. The parents of children of this age attending 15 schools were circularised and 68 per cent. accepted. Of those tested, 25 per cent. were found to be positive and referred to the Mass Miniature Radiography Service for examination.

As a rule, unless a child exhibits gross visual defect it is not the practice of the school health service to test a child's vision until it reaches the age of 8 years. Some authorities advise that children's eyes should be tested at an earlier age; accordingly a survey of 685 children attending the infants' departments of three schools were examined. Of these, 48 were referred for further examination, while 12 were kept under observation. Glasses were prescribed for 31 of the children who were referred for further examination. Unfortunately it has not been possible to carry out this survey throughout all the Infants' Departments, but it is hoped that this may be achieved later.

In writing this foreword, one recalls that just 50 years ago the School Health Service was brought into being by the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, and it is interesting to read the early reports of Dr. William Daley, who was appointed as the first School Medical Officer by the Education Committee. As the duties laid down were more than the Medical Officer could carry out unaided, an additional medical officer was appointed who devoted part of his time to school work and the rest as Surgeon to the Police and Fire Brigade. At the time of the first report there were 11 Elementary Day Schools with accommodation for nearly 11,500 children and an average attendance of 10,000, while today there are 53 Primary and Secondary schools with an average attendance of 12,670.

Medical inspections were confined to children entering upon their school careers and those leaving school, whereas today each child has three routine examinations together with any other special examinations as required. In 1908, 1,565 children were examined and 975, or 62 per cent., were found to have defects. At the start of the service the more serious infectious diseases were rife, and the first report instances 36 cases of tuberculosis and 53 cases of rickets. The latter, owing to improved social and economic conditions, is now rarely encountered.

In 1957, 653,452 meals and 2,323,205 one-third-pint bottles of milk were provided in the schools and one was surprised to find in the first report that the Bootle School Canteen Committee provided free meals for hungry children. The Secretary reported that in the three months ended

3rd April, 1908, 38,598 breakfasts were given to these children, the daily average being 603, and the cost per meal averaged 1½d. In addition, the Committee expended £39 19s. 2d. in providing boots and clogs for poor school children.

Over the years, the physique of the children has shown steady improvement, and the improved social condition of the people is reflected in the clothing and footwear of the children. Children now have greater opportunities for higher education, and special attention is given to the physically and mentally handicapped. In addition, preventive medicine, with its protective schemes against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Tuberculosis, ensures a healthy and better childhood in which the child can take full advantage of the educational facilities provided.

The School Health Service continued to function satisfactorily throughout the whole year and there was close co-operation between the service, the general practitioners and the specialist services of the Regional Hospital Board, frequent full and comprehensive reports being received from the hospitals of investigations carried out on school children. Unfortunately, only one full-time Dental Officer was available throughout the year, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance given to the School Dental Service by the local dental practitioners who worked on a sessional basis.

In submitting this report, I would like to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services (Education) Sub-Committee for their interest in the School Health Service, to the Director of Education and his staff, the teachers of the Borough, and the staff of my Department for their willing help and co-operation throughout the year.

T. R. ROBERTON,

Principal School Medical Officer.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1957

Area of Bootle in acres (exclusive of river bed)—3,054.

Population of Borough—Registrar-General's estimate of population at 30th June, 1957—80,630.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. The following statement records the attendance position in January, 1958, and shows an increase of 121 on the combined rolls of the Primary and Secondary Schools as compared with the previous year.

						<i>Mean No. on Rolls</i>	<i>Average Attendance</i>
<i>Primary Schools—</i>							
County ...	...	...	...	20	...	4727	4321
Voluntary ...	...	...	...	19	...	4646	4157
				—		—	—
				39		9373	8478
				—		—	—
<i>Secondary Schools—</i>							
County ...	...	...	...	8	...	3170	2923
Voluntary ...	...	...	...	6	...	1435	1269
				—		—	—
				14		4605	4192
				—		—	—
Mean number on Rolls (all schools) ...							13,978

COST. The rateable value of the Borough as at 1st April, 1957, was £847,580.

The gross cost of medical inspection and treatment for the twelve months ended March 31st, 1957, was £16,962 compared with £14,574 for the preceding year. The Government Grant was approximately £9,815, sundry receipts totalled £603 and the net cost was £6,544 compared with £5,554 for the preceding year.

The cost under this head per child on the school rolls was 24s. 3d. gross, and 9s. 4d. net, and the cost in terms of a penny rate was 4.83d. gross, and 1.86d. net.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

A statistical summary of the findings of medical inspection and of the kind of treatment obtained will be found in the Ministry of Education Returns at the end of this Report.

(1) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS. Periodic medical inspections were carried out in all schools as laid down in para. 10 of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953.

During the year the number of inspections totalled 3,520, made up as follows:—Entrants 1,332, Second Age Group 1,226, and Third Age Group 916; other inspections 46.

(2) SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS. The number of children presented for special examination was 3,155, as compared with 3,107 in the preceding year; 3,145 of these were seen at Minor Ailments Clinics, while the remaining 10 were presented at schools in the course of routine visits.

(3) RE-EXAMINATIONS. 4,530 re-examinations of children, who on examination were referred for treatment or further observation, were made during the year, as compared with 4,925 during 1956; 3,118 of these were performed at the schools, and 1,412 at the School Medical Offices and Health Centre.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS. In addition to the ordinary work of routine and special examinations and re-inspections undertaken during the year, the following work was carried out:—

Examination of:—

Children as to fitness for employment	...	...	134
Children for ascertainment of educational sub-normality	...	...	119
Other Children	...	...	77

In addition, the Director of Education was supplied with medical histories of 250 juvenile offenders. The following table shows the number of such reports supplied during the past five years:—

1957	...	...	...	250
1956	...	...	...	210
1955	...	...	...	161
1954	...	...	...	180
1953	...	...	...	153

A summary of the defects noted at both periodic and special examinations showed that 7,777 defects were referred for treatment or further observation.

The incidence of the commoner physical defects in children examined during periodic medical inspection was as follows:—unsatisfactory physical condition, 0.9 per cent.; squint, 2.9 per cent.; external eye disease, 1.9 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis and adenoids, 8.3 per cent.; other nose and throat conditions, 3.9 per cent.; anaemia, 1.4 per cent.; lung disease, 7.1 per cent.; otorrhoea, 2.2 per cent.; other ear, 8.9 per cent.; enlarged cervical glands, 5.1 per cent.; defective vision, 22.4 per cent.; skin conditions, 6.1 per cent.; heart (cong. and func.), 3.3 per cent.; flat feet, 8.3 per cent.; posture, 1.5 per cent.; and other orthopaedic conditions, 6.1 per cent.

Children referred for treatment or further observation constituted 72.8 per cent. of the entrants examined, 72.9 per cent. of the primary leavers examined, and 66.9 per cent. of the third group examined, and 63.0 of the additional inspections.

(5) STUDENT TEACHERS. In accordance with Ministry of Education Circular 249, 46 medical examinations (male 20, female 26) were carried out of entrants to courses of training for teaching, and to the teaching profession.

GENERAL CONDITION

It will be noted in Table I (D) on page 21 that classification of the children by “physical condition” has been substituted for the former classification; and this table shows that out of a total of 3,520 children examined, 0.94 per cent. were grouped as in unsatisfactory condition.

COMPARATIVE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

YEAR		BOYS					
		Infants		Primary Leavers		Secondary Leavers	
		Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.
		cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.
1957	...	111.5	20.2	138.8	33.2	156.3	46.6
1956	...	110.9	20.1	137.5	33.1	157.7	47.5
1955	...	109.3	19.6	137.6	33.0	156.1	45.9
1954	...	110.2	20.2	136.9	32.4	156.6	47.0
1953	...	110.7	20.1	137.1	32.1	158.6	48.3

YEAR		GIRLS					
		Infants		Primary Leavers		Secondary Leavers	
		Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.
		cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.
1957	...	110.2	19.5	138.7	34.4	155.5	49.5
1956	...	110.7	19.9	138.2	33.9	155.5	48.5
1955	...	109.0	19.0	139.0	33.5	154.2	47.6
1954	...	109.4	19.7	136.1	32.3	154.4	48.5
1953	...	109.9	19.5	137.0	32.3	155.0	47.7

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS (IN KILOGRAMS) OF SCHOOL ENTRANTS IN 1957 AND EARLIER YEARS

<i>Date of Examination</i>		Boys				Girls			
		<i>Number examined</i>		<i>Average Weight</i>		<i>Number examined</i>		<i>Average Weight</i>	
1957	687	...	20.2	...	645	...	19.5
1956	457	...	20.1	...	427	...	19.9
1955	727	...	19.6	...	769	...	19.0
1954	621	...	20.2	...	566	...	19.7
1953	899	...	20.1	...	856	...	19.5
1952	668	...	20.7	...	693	...	19.3
1951	804	...	20.6	...	744	...	19.9
1950	525	...	19.6	...	490	...	18.8
1949	574	...	19.8	...	493	...	18.8
1948	751	...	20.1	...	720	...	19.6
1947	472	...	19.4	...	470	...	18.9

CLEANLINESS

The total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses for verminous conditions was 34,312, and there were 905 instances in which children were noted as unclean. Last year's figures were 35,111 and 946 respectively.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

The number of children assisted by the Authority's Scheme under the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948, for January/December, 1957, is as under:—

TOTAL APPLICATIONS ...	816	
ISSUES FREE OF COST ...	783	(includes 7 Special Schools)
„ one-third of cost	5	
„ two-thirds of cost	2	
„ FULL COST ...	22	(includes 18 Special Schools)
Referred to N.A.B. ...	4	

In the period under review, seven cases of Part or Full Cost Repayment were taken to Court during the year.

This scheme for provision of clothing gives the opportunity, of which full advantage is taken, of close co-operation between the various agencies interested in the welfare of children. These agencies are co-ordinated by the Medical Officer of Health who acts as Co-ordinating Officer in connection with children who may be neglected in their own homes. In this capacity he is notified, at once, of any cases coming to the notice of the Education Department in which there is a possibility of neglect or ill treatment of children.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC

The daily clinics for the treatment of minor ailments dealt with 2,698 defects, amongst which minor septic infections of the skin were the commonest conditions. The attendances numbered 9,854, excluding 64 of children below school age, as compared with 9,693 in 1956. 323 exclusion certificates were given, mainly on account of minor ailments but also on account of infectious diseases.

SKIN DISEASES

As a result of the inspections at the Minor Ailments Clinics, 1,155 children, or 43 per cent. of the total number of children attending, were found to be suffering from infections of the skin. Details of these infections are given in Table IV on page 24.

Scabies Clinic

The incidence of scabies among school children is shown in the following table:—

				<i>Cases found at Special Examinations</i>	<i>Cases found at Routine Inspections</i>
1957	...	...	...	36	4
1956	...	...	...	19	7
1955	...	...	...	37	6
1954	...	...	...	23	2
1953	...	...	...	22	Nil
1952	...	...	...	10	Nil
1951	...	...	...	8	Nil
1950	...	...	...	9	Nil
1949	...	...	...	25	Nil
1948	...	...	...	36	4
1947	...	...	...	69	7

VISION AND EYE DEFECTS

VISION. Entrants are not examined for defective vision at routine examinations, but during the year the other age groups were so examined, and 470 or 21.9 per cent. were found to have defective vision requiring further examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon. In addition, 1,106 eight-year-olds were tested with Snellen's Types by School Nurses and 111 were referred for examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon. Special examinations numbered 2,544 and 49 children were referred for treatment.

Ophthalmic Clinic

The number of new cases seen at the Clinic during 1957 was 525, and the total number of attendances was 2,192.

All children with glasses have their visual acuity tested by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon once a year, if circumstances permit, while the cases of high myopia receive full examination more frequently.

-Squint

At routine examinations 100 cases of squint were found, and 13 cases were found among pupils specially referred for examination. 20 were operated on at St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Liverpool, and Bootle Hospital.

External Eye Diseases

Inflammatory conditions of the external eye were noted in 75 cases at periodic inspections, and in 303 cases at special inspections.

DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

The total number of cases dealt with in 1957 was 285 (this total included 19 infants below school age). The 266 school children included 24 cases of otorrhoea, 115 other ear defects, 66 of defects of nose and throat, and 33 of deafness; and the toddlers included 10 defects of nose and 1 tonsils and adenoids, 1 deafness and 7 other ear defects.

During the year, 18 consultative aural clinics were held by Mr. Bauer. 322 examinations were made (including 24 toddlers), and 103 cases referred to the special department of local hospitals.

Tonsils and Adenoids

At periodic inspections during the past year, disease of both tonsils and adenoids was detected in 8.3 per cent. 33 cases are known to have received operative treatment as in-patients at local hospitals.

DENTAL SERVICE

The dental work was carried out by one full-time dental officer, and three part-time officers who did 271 sessions (i.e., equivalent to about .5 of a full-time officer). There does not seem to be any likelihood of being able to engage additional full-time dental officers, as newly qualified dentists appear to prefer private practice to local authority service.

There continues to be much apathy among many parents towards having fillings carried out on their children. It is amazing how many children rule their parents in this matter, by refusing to have fillings, and it is most noticeable that the caries rate in both the deciduous and permanent teeth of young children is on the increase.

The acceptance rate for treatment in the Netherton Schools is often very poor, this no doubt being due to the fact that parents are reluctant to bring their children so far for treatment, especially if several visits are necessary. With the greatly increased population in the Netherton area, there is a real need for a new clinic to treat the children and priority classes in that part of the Borough.

Thirty-three dentures were made for school children during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS

When considered necessary, the School Medical Officers refer children to the Chest Clinic for X-Ray. During the year, a school girl aged 11 years was found to be suffering from acute miliary tuberculosis and was admitted to hospital, where she has made a good recovery. Her classmates, 38 in all, were Mantoux tested for tuberculosis, three being found positive. These were X-Rayed and kept under observation by the Chest Clinic, and have been found not to be suffering from the disease.

Residential treatment of tuberculous children of school age was provided during the year at the Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children.

CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS

There is no change to record in the arrangements described in former reports for the ascertainment and treatment of crippling defects.

Orthopaedic Clinic

Sessions are held at intervals of approximately two weeks, with Mr. F. C. Dwyer as Consultant Surgeon and Mr. W. Ellis, Orthopaedic Registrar. Dr. M. B. Clarke has attended the sessions and also a representative from the Liverpool Child Welfare Association, thereby ensuring co-ordination in after-care.

Orthopaedic Surgeons paid 20 visits to the Clinic during the year, and examined 442 cases referred to them. Of the patients seen, 131 were discharged, while 290 were advised to remain under treatment and supervision; 20 cases were referred to hospital, and in the one remaining case no treatment was considered necessary.

A Remedial Exercises Clinic is held each Saturday morning under the direction of a School Nurse, mainly for the correction of flat feet and bad posture. The attendances during the year numbered 123.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The definition of the various categories of handicapped pupils is set forth in paragraph 3 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1953, and the numbers in the Register at the end of the year are as follows:—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) Blind	— ...	3 ...	3
(b) Partially Sighted	— ...	2 ...	2
(c) Deaf	2 ...	5 ...	7
(d) Partially Deaf	7 ...	5 ...	12
(e) Educationally Sub-Normal ...	99 ...	56 ...	155
(f) Epileptic	1 ...	2 ...	3
(g) Maladjusted	8 ...	2 ...	10
(h) Physically Handicapped ...	17 ...	14 ...	31
(i) Speech Defect	— ...	— ...	—
(j) Delicate	2 ...	1 ...	3
	<hr/> 136	<hr/> 90	<hr/> 226

85 boys and 62 girls are attending Special Schools.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL. On 6th May, 1957, this school, the first special school provided by the Education Committee, was opened by the Mayor, the late Alderman Dr. Harris, J.P., for Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils. Prior to its opening these children attended the special class at Linacre Junior Mixed Department and they were subsequently transferred to St. Paul's School together with other children who were awaiting places in Day Special Schools. A special school of this type has long been needed in the Borough, and the benefit to the children who attended has been marked.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

No school or department was closed on account of communicable disease during the year.

SCARLET FEVER. The number of cases notified in children of school age was 32, compared with 34 in 1956.

DIPHTHERIA. No case was notified in a child of school age as compared with 0 notified in 1956.

MEASLES. 187 cases were notified amongst school children, as against 546 in 1956.

POLIOMYELITIS. No cases occurred in children of school age.

CHICKEN POX. 3 cases were reported, as against 4 in 1956.

MUMPS. 2 cases were reported, compared with 3 in 1956.

WHOOPING COUGH. 34 cases were notified amongst school children, as compared with 98 in 1956.

Protection against Diphtheria

Immunisation of children as described in previous reports commenced in 1932, and during the year 1,036 children under five years of age and 404 children of school age completed the course. Arrangements now operate whereby children already immunised are offered a third inoculation on entry into school in order to raise their immunity and 775 children were so treated during the year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

During the year 51 schoolchildren were vaccinated against poliomyelitis.

B.C.G. Vaccination

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, the Authority's scheme for B.C.G. vaccination was extended to children aged 13 years. A circular letter was sent to the parents of 1,116 boys and girls of this age in 15 schools, and acceptances were received in 762 cases (68%). In all, 657 children were Mantoux tested. Of these, 166 or 25% were found to be positive and were referred to the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit for X-Ray examination, while 491 negative reactors were inoculated with B.C.G. vaccine.

NURSERY CLASSES

		<i>No. of new admissions in 1957</i>		<i>No. on roll 19/12/57</i>		<i>Average No. in Attendance Jan.-Dec. '57</i>
Linacre Nursery	...	25		24	...	22
St. Monica's Nursery	...	48	...	43	...	35
Salisbury Nursery	...	43	...	46	...	45
St. Mary's Nursery	...	57	...	53	...	40
Hawthorne Nursery	...	15	...	16	...	17
		<hr/> 188		<hr/> 182		<hr/> 159

The children admitted to the Nurseries enjoy to the full the activities and routine which helps them to develop satisfactorily both mentally and physically.

The Nurseries continue to offer training facilities for school leavers. Five students are expecting to take their National Nursery Nurses' Certificate Course in 1958.

AFTER CARE

PROVISION OF MEALS

PROVISION OF MEALS

Applications granted (for Bootle Schools)	...	...	...	801
" " (for Bootle Pupils in Outside Schools)				49
Outside Authority pupils on free meals in Bootle Schools				1
Applications overscale	...	.....	...	49

Applications granted (for Bootle Schools)	801
” ” (for Bootle Pupils in Outside Schools)	49
Outside Authority pupils on free meals in Bootle Schools	1
Applications overscale	49
	<hr/>
Total dealt with for review	900

988 in Bootle Schools per day;
74 Bootle pupils in Outside Schools per day.

During the year the following dining centres were opened:—

											<i>Opening Date</i>
Holy Ghost Annexe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2/9/57
Warwick Bolam School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24/6/57

No new kitchens were opened.

MEALS FREE OF CHARGE. The number of School Dinners supplied was:—

Free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	165,226
Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	488,226
											<hr/>
											653,452
											<hr/>

MILK. The number of one-third pint bottles provided during the period under review was 2,323,205.

The number of individual children supplied with meals and milk on a normal day in October, 1957, was:—

Meals—Free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	802
Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,739
											<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,541
											<hr/>
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,789
											<hr/>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GENERAL. Physical education today is one with the general pattern of education and contributes to that “wholeness of experience” essential in the preparation of the child for life and living. In recent years its concept has changed from emphasis on systems of bodily mechanics applied to the “average child” to the observation of moving, growing children and their development in functional, creative and social awareness. Real experience of physical activity and movement nourishes vitality and confidence in the child’s approach to living. It is therefore necessary for a generous programme of physical education to include not only training in the old sense but also as wide a range of experience, including gymnastics, games, dancing, swimming, boxing, fencing, camping, hiking, cycling, as circumstances permit. In many of these activities it is difficult to distinguish physical, intellectual or aesthetic appeal, or whether the individual or social effect is greater. The desire for a broadening range of experience increases with adolescence, and in the secondary schools, the “carry-over” value of activities must have due consideration.

TEACHERS' COURSES. To help teachers to keep in touch with new ideas, to provide opportunity for discussion of approach, content and presentation, the following local courses were held:—

Physical Education (Men)

Senior Boys	2 Sessions ...	36 Teachers present
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Physical Education (Men and Women)

Junior Boys and Girls	2 Sessions ...	97 ditto
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Organised Games (Men and Women)

Junior and Senior children ...	1 Session ...	49 ditto
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Scottish Country Dancing

Junior and Senior children ...	4 Sessions ...	120 ditto
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It was a pleasure to welcome Her Majesty's Inspectors to the sessions which dealt with P.E. and Organised Games lessons.

NEW FACILITIES. The range and quality of physical education envisaged by the 1944 Act are reflected in the provision of gymnasia and playing fields in the newly developed Netherton area. Though pressure at the primary stage has led to some delay the ultimate provision at primary and secondary levels promises to be adequate. The older schools in built-up areas present special difficulties, but the range of gymnastics work has been extended by the installation of more fixed apparatus in the secondary modern schools. This year, the provision of beams and ropes at Balliol and St. James' Schools was approved and valuable experimental work is anticipated from a general activity frame of a new pattern to be fixed at St. Paul's (E.S.N.) School. All portable and fixed apparatus was inspected and kept in good condition.

SWIMMING. Swimming kept its prominent place in the physical education programme for boys and girls, priority being given to the older children in the primary stage and to the younger children in the secondary stage. By this allocation it was estimated that children in the 9-13 age-groups would have priority in instruction. The winter session provided opportunity for more advanced instruction, for intensive teaching under the "Midlothian" system and for inter-school competition in the form of short contests. Most of the secondary schools coached their better pupils for A.S.A. and R.L.S.S. awards — some of the training being done out of school hours by the school "club." The winner of the Police Cup for Life Saving was the team entered by Balliol Secondary Boys' School — runners-up, St. George of England School.

From April—September (Summer Session) Baths attendances were as follows:

By 15 Secondary Schools	18,405 attendances
By 17 Primary Schools	16,431 attendances
Total for six months	<hr/> 34,836 attendances <hr/>

The following individual awards were made:—

R.L.S.S. and A.S.A. Awards (Boys and Girls)—201

The Schools Swimming Association organised the usual inter-school galas and an increasing number of schools included swimming sports in their programme. Competitors from Bootle Schools were again successful at E.S.S.A. meetings at County, Divisional and National levels. Due to the continued co-operation of teachers and instructors the swimming instruction maintained its high standard.

PLAYING FIELDS. The problem of finding accommodation for all field activities was eased in some degree by increase in transport to Orrell Playing Field and by developments at Netherton. The Stuart Road Field continued to bear the brunt of wear and was kept in good condition by the ground staff, who also serviced the surrounding plots and courts of other Schools. Maintenance service of this kind is bound to extend and call for greater provision of material and labour. A new tractor at Stuart Road and an autoscythe and triple gang-mower at Netherton were provided. Major overhauls of gang-mower units and motor-mowers at Stuart Road were completed. The main field activities provided for included: Athletics—field and track events; Cricket; Association and Rugby Football; Hockey; Netball and Rounders. Increased use was made of the tennis courts in Derby Park by the girls' secondary schools.

OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. With the raising of the school leaving age, various out-of-school activities on "club" lines have assumed greater significance. The Committee has always welcomed the voluntary work in physical and social recreation undertaken by the teachers, and has helped its development financially and by the granting of facilities. The "carry-over" value of this work cannot be overestimated; its correlation with the Youth Service and other agencies concerned with adolescence seems to be a necessary development, for physical and social education go hand-in-hand as a continuous process.

F. M. DURRANT,

Organiser of Physical Education.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

134 boys desiring employment as messenger boys were examined, and certificates were granted in all but 2 cases. These interviews gave opportunity to advise on faults in hygiene, particularly as regards care of the teeth, and to obtain treatment of physical defects.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957**

TABLE I

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING
SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections								
Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—								
Entrants ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,332
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,226
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	916
Total								3,474
Number of other Periodic Inspections								46
Grand Total								3,520
B.—Other Inspections								
Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,485
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,530
Total								8,015
C.—Pupils found to require Treatment								
<i>Group</i>					<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa</i>		<i>Total individual pupils</i>
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	
Entrants ...	...	...	...	...	26	307	...	311
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	236	268	...	458
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	204	151	...	324
Total (prescribed groups)	...	...	...	...	466	726	...	1093
Other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	4	11	...	13
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	470	737	...	1106

D.—Classification of the Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected in the age groups recorded in Table I. A.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A Satisfactory		B Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants	1332	1315	98.72	17	1.28
Second Age Group ...	1226	1217	99.27	9	0.73
Third Age Group ...	916	911	99.45	5	0.55
Other Periodic Inspections	46	44	95.65	2	4.35
TOTAL	3520	3487	99.06	33	0.94

TABLE II

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	34,312
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested ...	905
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) ...	2
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) ...	—

TABLE III

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year Ended 31st December, 1957

Defect Code (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	(A) PERIODIC INSPECTIONS				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)		(B) SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		ENTRANTS		LEAVERS		Requiring treatment (7)	Requiring observation (8)	Requiring treatment (9)	Requiring observation (10)
		Requiring treatment (3)	Requiring observation (4)	Requiring treatment (5)	Requiring observation (6)				
4	Skin	29	31	40	24	116	89	1289	—
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision	26	1	204	49	470	94	72	—
	<i>b.</i> Squint	66	18	4	5	76	27	13	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	17	17	10	3	44	32	303	—
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing	23	26	16	14	48	57	—	6
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	20	21	14	7	49	38	110	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	24	75	25	51	75	224	183	4
7	Nose or Throat	44	190	9	56	77	335	83	13
8	Speech... ..	5	36	—	13	10	61	5	4
9	Lymphatic Glands	8	113	1	6	12	148	12	7
10	Heart	1	43	2	26	5	112	—	3
11	Lungs	28	145	4	33	35	211	22	9
12	Developmental— <i>a.</i> Hernia... ..	8	4	—	—	10	6	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	9	59	1	12	16	91	1	3
13	Orthopaedic— <i>a.</i> Posture	6	7	—	4	11	30	5	1
	<i>b.</i> Flat Foot	34	24	18	14	113	53	51	5
	<i>c.</i> Other	54	69	31	55	159	188	51	26
14	Nervous System— <i>a.</i> Epilepsy	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	2
	<i>b.</i> Other	2	86	—	13	10	198	2	8
15	Psychological— <i>a.</i> Development	2	10	1	6	10	38	—	5
	<i>b.</i> Stability	—	5	—	5	—	14	1	2
16	Abdomen	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
17	Other	215	246	130	53	488	466	1105	15

TABLE IV

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

GROUP 1. EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

					<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>	
					<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of						
refraction and squint	...	...	...	387	...	7
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...			1303	...	—
Total	...	...	...	1690	...	7
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were:						
Prescribed	...	...	...	638	...	—

GROUP 2. DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

					<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
					<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Received operative treatment:—						
(a) for diseases of the ear	...	...		—	...	10
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis				—	...	33
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	...	—	...	6
Received other forms of treatment	...			327	...	167
Total	...	...	...	327	...	216

Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids:—

					<i>By Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
(a) in 1957	—	2
(b) in previous years	—	18

GROUP 3. ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	<i>By Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments ...	34	186

GROUP 4. DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table II)

	<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority</i>				
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	—
(ii) Body	5
Scabies	40
Impetigo	109
Other Skin Diseases	1001
Total	1155

GROUP 5. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority	13
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

GROUP 6. SPEECH THERAPY

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists under arrangements made by the Authority	11
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

GROUP 7. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments treated ...	...	...	...	996
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ...	...	...	...	31
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. Vaccination ...	...	...	...	491
Total ...	...	...	...	1518

TABLE V

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY
THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—						
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	4699
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	1044
Total (1)	...	...	...	...	...	5743
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	3618
(3) Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2885
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	1816
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2492
(6) Half-days devoted to Periodic (School) Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	31
Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	524
Total (6)	...	...	...	...	...	555
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1153
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	55
Total (7)	...	...	...	...	...	1208
(8) Number of Teeth filled: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1031
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	55
Total (8)	...	...	...	...	...	1086
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	918
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1200
Total (9)	...	...	...	...	...	2118
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	1328
(11) Orthodontics—						
(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	5
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...	...	...	—
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...	...	...	5
(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	...	5
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	...	—
(h) Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	34
(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures	...	...	...	...	...	33
(13) Other operations—						
Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	...	597
Temporary teeth	...	...	...	...	...	—

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officers	...	...	4
Dental Officers	...	...	1 whole-time; 1 vacancy
School Nurses	...	...	4
Dental Attendants	...	...	2

LOCATION OF SCHOOL CLINICS

Clinic Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Knowsley Road, and at the School Medical Offices, Balliol Road.

PARTICULARS OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD

Examination and/or treatment	Health Centre Knowsley Road	School Medical Offices Balliol Road	
	By staff of local health authority	Under arrange- ments made with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board	By staff of local health authority
A. Minor ailment and other non-specialist examina- tion or treatment	Daily a.m.	—	Daily a.m.
B. Dental	Daily	—	By appointment
C. Ophthalmic	—	—	Thrice weekly
D. Ear, Nose and Throat...	—	Fortnightly	—
E. Orthopaedic	—	Fortnightly	—

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS, Approved under Section 9 (5) of the Education Act, 1944 (OTHER THAN HOSPITAL SCHOOLS) or BOARDING IN BOARDING HOMES

	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Educationally Sub-Normal	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Total (1) — (9)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
During the calendar year ended 31st December, 1957, handicapped pupils—										
A. newly placed in Special Schools or Boarding Homes	—	—	—	1	—	2	102	2	1	108
B. newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	1	1	—	1	1	3	62	4	1	74
On or about 31st January, 1958, number of handicapped pupils from the Authority's area—										
C. (i) on the registers of special schools as:										
(a) day pupils	—	—	1	—	—	3	106	—	—	110
(b) boarding pupils ...	2	1	6	9	—	3	11	2	1	35
(ii) on the registers of independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
TOTAL C	2	1	7	9	—	6	117	4	1	147
D. being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944—										
(i) in hospitals... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g., units for spastics) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	4

E. requiring places in special schools:											
(i) Total	(a) day	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
	(b) boarding ...	1	1	—	—	1	4	1	3	—	11
Pupils included in the totals above:											
(ii) who had not reached the age of 5:											
	(a) awaiting day places	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) awaiting boarding places	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(iii) who had reached the age of 5 but whose parents had not consented to their admission to a special school:											
	(a) awaiting day places	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) awaiting boarding places	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
F. On the registers of hospital Special Schools 2											
F. During the calendar year ended 31st December, 1957, children reported to the local health authority—											
(a)	under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b))	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
(b)	„ „ „ „ relying on Section 57 (4)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c)	„ „ „ „ (5)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
of the Education Act, 1944											
G. During the financial year ended 31st March, 1957, amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped pupils otherwise than at school £1105 17s. 9d.											

